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PRESBYTERIAN MEDICAL CENTER

CLAY AND WEBSTER STREETS
SAN FRANCISCO 15, CALIFORNIA

December 1, 1960

Professor Joshua Lederberg,
Stanford University School of Medicine,
300 Pasteur Drive,
Palo Alto, California.

Dear Professor Lederberg:

Recently Dr. Shumway suggested that you might be interested in our early studies in isoskin grafting. An important observation described but not stressed in the reprint is the fate of my own two sets of donor grafts (E.H. page 11). The first set applied April 3 took perfectly and spread normally. A second set applied April 25 at a time when the first set was still in blooming condition (though about to begin to disappear on May 2) floated off in a sea of wound fluid—obviously already quite distasteful to the host. A second set of grafts from another donor applied on April 3 took but they, too, began to disappear about May 2. Meanwhile, a third donor supplied a set of grafts on April 10 which took and continued to thrive until May 14 even though the grafts from the first and second donors had begun to disappear on May 2, indicating a highly specific reaction of the donee to each set of donor grafts (anticipating Medawar by many years!)

The second reprint is sent as I thought you would be amused by Dr. Halsted's allusion in 1914 (page 8) to what is happening in the outer space-world about to be invaded by our astronauts!

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,



Emile Holman, M.D.

EH-eh